(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 18 November 2004 (18.11.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/099135 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: C07D 473/00, C07H 15/252

A61K 47/48,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2004/050753

(22) International Filing Date: 10 May 2004 (10.05.2004)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 0310593.9

8 May 2003 (08.05.2003) GB

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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,

MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW. ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations
- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

Published:

with international search report

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(54) Title: HIV PRODRUGS CLEAVABLE BY CD26

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides new prodrugs which are conjugates of a therapeutic compound and a peptide wherein the conjugate is cleavable by dipeptidyl-peptidases, more preferably by CD26, also known as DPPIV (dipeptidyl aminodipeptidase IV). The present prodrugs have the formula

(I), the stereoisomeric forms and salts thereof, wherein n is I to 5; Y is proline, alanine, hydroxyproline, dihydroxyproline, thiazolidinecarboxylic acid (thioproline), dehydroproline, pipecolic acid (L-homoproline), azetidinecarboxylic acid, aziridinecarboxylic acid, glycine, serine, valine, leucine, isoleucine and threonine; X is selected from any amino acid in the D- or L-configuration; X and Y in each repeat of [Y-X] are chosen independently from one another and independently from other repeats; Z is a direct bond or a bivalent straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms; R^1 is an aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, aryloxy C_{1-4} alkyl, heterocycloalkyloxy, heterocycloalkyl C_{1-4} alkoxy, heteroaryloxy C_{1-4} alkyl, heteroaryl C_{1-4} alkyloxy; R^2 is aryl C_{1-4} alkyl; R^3 is C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl C_{1-4} alkyl; R^4 is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl. The present invention furthermore provides the use of said prodrugs as medicines as well as a method of producing said prodrugs.



WO 2004/099135 A3



- with sequence listing part of description published separately in electronic form and available upon request from the International Bureau
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 17 February 2005

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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2	2 October 2004	01/12/2004	
Name and	mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2	Authorized officer	
	NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016	Vogt, T	

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